



Borough of Rawtenstall

ANNUAL REPORT

1969

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Public Health Inspector



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HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

.....

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COUNCILLOR MRS. F. M. PROCTER

Vice Chairman

ALDERMAN A. HINCHSLIFFE
(To October 1969)

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN J. T. MELIA) EX-OFFICIO

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COUNCILLOR MRS. F. MILLS

BOROUGH OF RAWTENSTALL

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

T. S. JONES, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. CUNLIFFE, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

L. T. SIMPSON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

A. H. FISHER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., O.N.C. (Building)

A. HALLIWELL, M.A.P.H.I.

Authorised Meat Inspector

J. CLEMENT
(Appointed 3rd March 1969)

Clerks

MRS. E. PINCHBECK

MISS M. HARGREAVES

To the Mayor and Members of the Rawtenstall Borough Council:

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1969 on the health of the residents of the town.

It is gratifying to note that although the population has once again declined during 1969 by two hundred and thirty persons this is less than in the previous year. Despite this the number of births has increased slightly and the birth rate has also increased over the previous year. This is a good trend, and as the total number of births has remained constant the declining population must be due to certain numbers of people leaving the area probably in search of employment.

I feel that, in order to encourage persons to either remain or even move into the Borough, private development should be encouraged and this would then help to increase the population.

As in previous years the major causes of death are heart and circulatory diseases accounting for 199, malignancy 67, and pneumonia and bronchitis 35.

Once again the hospital and domiciliary midwifery services are to be congratulated since there were no maternal deaths and only three infant deaths and these occurred in the first week of life. Your attention is drawn to the table on page 6 which shows that for 1968 - 1969 the infant mortality rate is half that for England and Wales. It is hoped that this trend over the past two years will be continued. The only way that this can be maintained is to ensure that every expectant mother receives adequate ante-natal care as soon as she is aware that she is pregnant, that the hospital and domiciliary midwifery services are adequately staffed, and also that they maintain their present high standards.

May I draw the attention of all parents of young children to the section on the control of infectious diseases, and reiterate and emphasise the need to protect children against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and measles. It is only by maintaining a high level of protection against these diseases that they will be kept under control and, in addition, reduce suffering to children and work to the general practitioner.

May I take this opportunity of drawing your attention to a new development in the control of infectious diseases by informing you that girls of 13 years of age will be offered protection by one injection of vaccine against Rubella - (German measles). This added protection for girls will protect them in later life when they are expectant mothers against the possibility of contracting German measles in the early months of pregnancy resulting in congenital abnormalities such as deafness, blindness, congenital heart conditions etc. in infants. Initially this vaccine will only be made available to girls of 13 years of age, but eventually any girl between the ages of 11 and 14 years of age will be given the opportunity to be so protected.

Although the number of measles is less than for many years it increased slightly over the previous two years and it is still continuing. This condition again can be completely eliminated if all young children are protected against

measles by one dose injection of vaccine. Parents are strongly advised to have their young children protected against measles not only to avoid having the disease, but, also, some 7% of children who have measles develop complications such as defects of vision and hearing, and in some cases of brain damage.

Despite the general opinion that tuberculosis is on the way out I would draw your attention to the section on tuberculosis from which you will see that unfortunately there were ten new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and these account for one third of the cases of pulmonary tuberculosis on the register. There is still a need for the public at large to take advantage, whenever the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit is in the town, to have a chest x-ray carried out to help the early detection of this disease and reduce its spread in the Valley.

You will recall that during the year an attempt was made to convince the Department of Health and Social Security of the need to make brucellosis a notifiable disease. Unfortunately the Department did not agree that a case was made out for this disease to be made notifiable, despite the fact that this town is in a similar position to the whole of the Lancashire County in that a high proportion of the milk retailed is untreated. Consumption of untreated milk puts the public at large at risk of contracting brucellosis which is a diseased condition that can remain with a person for the rest of his life. The condition can be confused with a number of other diseases because the person suffers from sweating, general lethargy and malaise which is often labelled many things other than the correct one. The simplest way to prevent any person from contracting this disease is for the public to consume nothing but Pasteurised milk, cream or cottage cheese, unless the milk is from an accredited brucella free herd. I still feel that pressure must be brought on all involved in the production, processing and sale of milk products to protect the public against the possibility of contracting brucellosis.

Finally I take this opportunity of thanking members of the Health and Housing Committee, the Officers of the Corporation and the Staff of the Health Department for their unstinted support and co-operation at all times.

Yours sincerely,

T. S. JONES

Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N A .

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Registrar General's estimated population figure for mid year 1969 was 21,640. The adjusted birth rate was 16.2 per 1,000 of the population, compared with the national rate of 16.3. The adjusted death rate was 14.5 per 1,000 of the population compared with the national rate of 11.9.

The infant mortality rate was 9.0 per 1,000 live births compared with the national rate of 18.0.

There were three infant deaths; all occurred in the first four weeks of life. There were no maternal deaths.

There were eighty-three cases of infectious diseases notified. The district was apparently completely free from diphtheria and poliomyelitis.

Milk and public water supplies gave satisfactory results on sampling, except that organisms causing undulant fever were present in three milk samples involving one farm.

Discretionary and Standard Grants for the improvement of houses were approved in one hundred and eight cases.

STATISTICS

Area in acres	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,528
Number of Inhabited houses - according to the Rate Books	..										8,341
Number of Inhabited houses - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,079
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£612,167
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£2,370
Population - Registrar General's Estimate (Mid-year 1969)	..										21,640
Population - Census 1931	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,575
Population - Census 1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25,426
Population - Census 1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23,869

BIRTHS

									<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	(Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150	139	289
	(Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	19	11	30
	(Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	169	150	319

Still Births	(Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	6
	(Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
	(Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	5	6

DEATHS

Infantile	(Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
	(Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	-
	(Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3

Maternal	(Puerperal Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-
	(Other Maternal Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		-	-

Neo-natal Mortality - infants under four weeks of age .. 1 2 3

Total number of Deaths from all Causes 159 185 344

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.7
Adjusted Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.2
Stillbirths, rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Infantile Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Maternal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Perinatal Mortality, rate per 1,000 total births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Early Neo-natal Mortality, rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.9
Adjusted Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.5
Death Rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Death Rate from Cancer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.10

ENGLAND AND WALES

Live Birth Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.3
Death Rate, per 1,000 Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Neo-natal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	3	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	9	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	8	3	11
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	7	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	2	-	2
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	8	9	17
Meningitis	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc. ..	2	4	6
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	2	3
Hypertensive Disease	2	2	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	57	38	95
Other Forms of Heart Disease	7	16	23
Cerebrovascular Disease	20	33	53
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ..	8	16	24
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	9	8	17
Bronchitis and Emphysema	11	7	18
Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
Appendicitis	1	-	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System ..	1	3	4
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ..	-	1	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc. ..	-	2	2
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ..	1	-	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	1	2
All Other Accidents	3	6	9
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries ..	1	-	1
TOTALS	159	185	344

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE BOROUGH

Year	Popu- lation	Death Rate per 1,000	Birth Rate per 1,000 Population		Infant.Mort. per 1,000 Live Births	Actual Still Births	Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 Total Births	
			Actual					All Births
			Leg.	Illeg.				
1969	21,640	15.9	289	30	14.7	9	6	-
1968	21,870	15.8	276	30	14.0	10	10	-
1967	22,630	15.6	285	25	13.7	23	5	3.17
1966	22,950	14.8	276	20	14.2	27	7	-
1965	23,290	15.5	315	37	16.6	22	9	-
1964	23,510	14.1	328	26	16.7	28	5	-
1963	23,830	16.5	373	24	16.7	18	12	-
1962	23,860	15.2	368	25	16.5	28	4	-
1961	23,910	15.6	340	22	15.1	8	6	-
1960	23,970	14.8	355	19	15.6	32	6	-
1959	24,030	17.4	306	15	13.4	28	7	-
1958	24,230	15.7	319	12	13.7	18	12	2.92
1957	24,430	17.0	317	19	13.8	15	6	-
1956	24,650	14.4	312	17	13.3	15	8	-
1955	24,840	16.9	324	10	13.4	33	11	-
1954	24,900	16.1	329	9	13.6	30	4	2.92
1953	24,950	21.7	339	13	14.1	23	9	2.77
1952	25,140	14.0	319	24	13.6	32	8	2.85
1951	25,320	16.8	322	12	13.2	33	11	-
1950	25,350	15.5	339	16	14.0	37	7	2.76
1949	25,220	15.4	368	18	15.3	28	3	-
1948	25,140	14.2	389	19	16.2	48	13	3.93
1947	24,630	15.3	486	9	20.0	58	11	2.38
1946	24,300	14.2	365	23	15.9	35	15	7.35
1945	23,000	17.3	305	21	14.1	55	10	5.95
1944	23,630	15.5	386	16	17.3	57	9	4.86
1943	23,630	15.6	323	15	14.3	18	8	2.89
1942	26,030	12.6	307	10	12.9	35	18	-
1941	25,770	14.8	294	8	11.7	47	17	8.92
1940	26,030	14.8	274	5	10.7	47	12	-
1935	27,940	13.3	263	12	9.8	50	22	-
1930	28,660	13.2	330	13	11.9	84	22	-
1920	28,470	13.3	559	34	20.8	89	9	6.91
1910	32,960	12.2	599	26	19.0	110		9.60
1900	30,934	16.7	717	35	24.3	153		2.66

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

The County Council is responsible for the following local health services which are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme: Ambulance, District Nursing, Midwifery and Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The following matters are the responsibility of the Borough Council: control of infectious diseases, provision of suitable water supplies, control of cleansing and disposal of refuse, inspection of all food and food preparing premises including the inspection of all meat carcasses at private slaughterhouses, sampling of food stuffs (milk, ice cream, etc.) for bacteriological examination, sanitary accommodation to houses, factories, shops and other premises, inspection of houses with regard to fitness for human habitation, statutory nuisances, rodent control, offensive trades, smoke abatement and many other matters concerned with environmental health.

Hospital facilities are now under the Regional Board and Management Committees and patients are admitted without regard to local boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and milk and water samples is undertaken without charge by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Withington Hospital, West Didsbury, Manchester 20.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis and Measles during 1969 is shown by the following table:-

PRIMARY - BY YEAR OF BIRTH

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962 to 1965	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	2	84	12	-	11	1	110
Whooping Cough	2	83	6	-	9	1	101
Tetanus	2	84	12	-	13	11	122
Poliomyelitis	2	95	14	3	9	-	123
Measles	-	12	53	38	87	5	195

The number of children who were given reinforcement injections during 1969 is as follows:-

REINFORCEMENT - BY YEAR OF BIRTH

	1968	1967	1966	1962 to 1965	Others under 16	Total
Diphtheria	33	54	4	33	6	130
Whooping Cough	33	52	3	8	2	98
Tetanus	33	54	4	35	25	151
Poliomyelitis	2	2	2	27	15	48

The following table gives the numbers of children vaccinated and re-vaccinated against Smallpox:-

Primary Vaccination

Age in years

Re-Vaccination

Under 2	2 - 5	5 - 15	Total
49	41	2	92

Under 2	2 - 5	5 - 15	Total
-	-	8	8

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CORRECTED CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING EACH YEAR FROM 1960 TO 1969

Disease	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	17	22	4	1	2	1	1	1	3	3
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	27	29	8	8	11	5	20	2	2	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia										
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	2	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Polio-encephalitis	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	29	2	30	3	1	21	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Measles	272	331	13	222	417	73	387	43	12	71
Whooping Cough	12	3	-	14	21	2	-	11	1	1
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	3	1	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-
Infective Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	21	7
Totals	360	395	56	253	453	104	410	69	40	83

* From 1969 these diseases are no longer notifiable.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following table shows the results of bacteriological and pathological examinations during the year.

<u>Details of Examinations</u>						<u>Positive</u>	<u>Negative</u>
Salmonellae	-	5
Shigellae	-	5

TUBERCULOSIS

There were ten new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified and three new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis. Enquiries are made in every case about the source of the infection, and family and other close contacts of the patient are examined.

At the beginning of the year there were thirty-eight cases of tuberculosis on the register. Thirteen cases were added and thirteen cases taken off the register, leaving a total of thirty-eight cases on the register at the end of the year. The following table gives an analysis of the cases on the register during the year.

PARTICULARS OF CASES ON REGISTER DURING 1969.

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL PULMONARY AND NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
No. of cases on register at beginning of year	19	12	31	6	1	7	25	13	38
No. of cases added to register during year	6	4	10	2	1	3	8	5	13
No. cases removed from register during year:									
(a) Died	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1
(b) Left district	2	1	3	1	-	1	3	1	4
(c) Recovered	3	2	5	3	-	3	6	2	8
(d) Diagnosis not confirmed	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No. cases remaining on register at end of year	19	13	32	4	2	6	23	15	38

The following table gives the age groups of new cases taken on the register and deaths of cases removed from the register during 1969.

AGE GROUP	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
	6	4	2	1	1	-	-	-

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1950 - 1969

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Total
1950	8	-	8
1951	7	1	8
1952	7	-	7
1953	6	-	6
1954	7	-	7
1955	8	-	8
1956	-	-	-
1957	4	-	4
1958	2	-	2
1959	3	-	3
1960	2	-	2
1961	3	1	4
1962	-	-	-
1963	1	-	1
1964	-	1	1
1965	2	-	2
1966	2	-	2
1967	-	-	-
1968	2	-	2
1969	-	-	-

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.

Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, in conjunction with the Medical Officer of Health, my twenty-second Annual Report. This introductory letter briefly highlights the most significant events of the year, (which are more detailed in the report), with liberty taken to bring up to date certain items in order to be more topical.

Housing

Particular interest was centred on the recommendations of the consultants following their completion of work on the pilot study area. The final report is not published but preliminary recommendations, which have been outlined to the Council, visualise ambitious improvements to the Cloughfold and Springside districts of the town. The work of my Department will be mainly in connection with the survey work and contact with owners of property within the general improvement areas, the simultaneous creation of smoke control areas, and the early representation of property scheduled for clearance in the whole pilot study area. Decisions on the final boundaries and order of priority have not yet been made for the areas, but the consultants' recommendations include dealing with about 400 dwelling houses in improvement areas, whilst early clearance programmes in the pilot study area are expected to involve about 100 houses.

Survey work and discussions with owners and tenants of back-to-back property scheduled for improvement in the Bury Road area were completed during the year. Negotiations were finalised in the case of 24 back-to-backs where the owners indicated their willingness to sell the property to the Council, and where the houses lend themselves to conversion into 16 single bedroom flats. At the time of writing this report another 24 back-to-back houses in the Haslingden Road district were being purchased with a view to similar kind of improvement being effected. This action followed the Committee's decision to provide flats wherever possible when the Council purchase back-to-backs rather than convert them into 'through' houses. This is usually feasible where a group of six houses can be acquired. The majority of the potential houses in this category are situated on or near main roads, and, for elderly people, should provide much needed suitable accommodation on the level and with easy access to shops and buses.

One of the blocks of back-to-back houses for flat conversion mentioned in the previous paragraph is also to form part of a small general improvement area involving some 50 houses in the lower Bury Road area of the town. This area has been chosen as suitable in view of the new shopping development which has recently taken place, and the proposed landscaping which is to be done on the nearby conspicuous sites following clearance area action.

Smoke Control Areas

Survey work has nearly been completed of over 500 premises which will be involved in the first smoke control area affecting existing premises and situated in the Bury Road district of the town. The majority response from householders indicates a general welcome to clean air proposals. An appreciable number of

households show a preference for gas or electricity on the grounds of cleanliness and ease of work as soon as grants can be made. The Council's decision to go ahead with the declaration of smoke control areas, so that, after confirmation, such grants can be made, will enable domestic smoke control to get off the ground. It is important that a safeguard be applied by long dating the operative date of the first Order until July 1972 because of the present shortage of solid smokeless fuels.

Although one appreciates that old habits die hard and the cosy, open coal fire still has some psychological attraction, one cannot ignore that continuance of such fires is responsible for producing the high level of smoke pollution which is particularly in evidence in the winter months of the year along the valleys of the town. Here smoke does not disperse rapidly and must aggravate sufferers from bad chest conditions as well as producing dirty conditions which should not be tolerated in this age.

Comparison of last winter's level of smoke pollution with that of many North Western towns does not place us in a very favourable light. We are fast losing ground in the cleanliness stakes to many authorities who have vigorously implemented smoke control programmes. In the London area, where a very high proportion of property is smoke controlled, many built-up districts achieve winter pollution levels approximately one half of that obtaining in this area. They have reduced the average annual smoke concentration to about a third of that which applied ten years ago. Similar excellent results have been achieved further north in Sheffield. These are targets we should seek to emulate.

Food Inspection

Visits to food premises were intensified last year and generally it was found that a satisfactory response was made to our requests to improve conditions under which food is sold and prepared. One still deplores the absence of legislation which would secure the proper temperature control of cooked meats and similar vulnerable products which are exposed for sale, although some local butchers and grocers have, in advance of legal requirements, installed suitable refrigerated displays.

Large scale improvements have also been undertaken at both the wholesale private slaughterhouses in the town which considerably aid the hygienic handling of meat and facilitate proper inspection.

Although, over many years frequent sampling of local raw milk supplies and subsequent investigations have resulted in the removal of many brucella infected animals from the herds, it has been necessary recently to review the present informal system of control. This has been due mainly to an increase in the number of human cases of brucellosis derived from drinking infected milk which has been diagnosed in towns in the Bury and Rossendale Hospital Group area. In addition, sampling experience has shown that the action taken does not permanently eradicate the disease from the herds, and recurrent cases often occur in a herd twelve months or more after apparent clearance. In future, formal steps will be taken under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959 and on the lines recommended by the Department of Health by prohibiting the sale of milk from infected herds unless the milk is heat treated. Clearance of the herd will be

given only when infected cattle have been removed and a series of 'negative' samples obtained at four and six weekly intervals after removal of any infected animals. Such infected herds will also be the subject of frequent sampling thereafter. Whilst on this subject it is pleasing to report that two local herds have been accepted as Accredited Herds (brucellosis free) under the Government's scheme.

I again wish to take this opportunity of recording my thanks to the Health and Housing Committee for their encouragement and support, and also to express my appreciation to other Chief Officers and their staff for their wholehearted co-operation.

With pleasure I again record the conscientious and unstinting service given by a very capable and loyal staff and body of employees, to whom I give my personal thanks.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. CUNLIFFE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

S E C T I O N D.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCE

WATER SUPPLY

1. PUBLIC SUPPLY

Since the 1st April 1963 Bolton Corporation has been the statutory water undertaking for the area and serves 8,726 houses in the town, all being directly piped. Forty-two new houses were connected to the public supply during the year. This involved the laying of an additional 283 yards of new water main to existing ones. This latter work was mainly involved with schemes to provide separate water services upon which comment is made later.

Upland surface water reservoirs at Clowbridge, Greenfold and Clough Bottom, all of which are chlorinated and filtered, provide the source for the main public supply. Owing to certain waters being derived from peaty moorlands, there is a liability to plumbo-solvency and the water is lime-treated to overcome this. From the tests made after treatment the water was seen to have no significant plumbo-solvent action. The Undertaking reports that during the year 669 samples of raw water were subject to bacteriological examination and partial analysis, and 4 to full chemical analysis. In addition 1,500 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination and partial chemical analysis, and 6 full chemical analysis. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of a satisfactory quality.

No special action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. The average natural fluorine content of water supplied to the Rawtenstall area is approximately 0.30 parts per million.

Implementation of the powers contained in Section 96 of the Housing Act 1964 continued to bring a satisfactory response by giving encouragement to owners of property unsatisfactorily served by common water service pipes to provide separate services. The Committee pay the Water Undertaking's cost in connecting an external stop tap to the water main up to a maximum of £12 10s. including road re-instatement charges. Owners are responsible for their plumbers' cost of work from the external stop tap into the house. Seventy-four applications for financial assistance were approved during the year giving a total of 592 applications approved during the five years operation of the scheme.

2. PRIVATE SUPPLIES

The number of houses on private supply is 336. Of these 221 are in isolated areas remote from public mains. There are 68 houses within reasonable reach of public water mains and not affected by clearance schemes.

Last year 5 samples were collected all of which were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewerage scheme is on the separate system. Extensive alterations to the sewage disposal plant were substantially completed during the year. The scheme has involved the expenditure of well over a million pounds. The plant is situated in the neighbouring town of Haslingden and is controlled by the Haslingden, Rawtenstall and Bacup Outfall Sewage Board.

Forty-two new houses have been connected to the sewerage system during the year. One hundred and sixty-nine houses are not on the water carriage system, but the majority of these are outlying farms and cottages not connected by reason of their isolation.

There were one hundred and forty inspections made in connection with drainage defects and two hundred and fifty-seven complaints of blocked drains and closets were dealt with by the Department during the year. The employment of a man for the prompt release of blocked drains provides a valuable service, and complaints are normally dealt with within 24 hours of receipt.

The expeditious procedure enabled by the Public Health Act 1961 dealing with blocked and defective drains is delegated to the Chairman and Vice Chairman. Similar delegation for streamlining procedure exists in connection with the Public Health Act 1936 in respect of Section 39 (drains, eaves gutters, rainwater pipes etc.), Section 44 - 45 (defective sanitary conveniences), and Section 93 (nuisances).

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The Rivers Irwell and Limy Water are polluted by industrial premises in the area, although the latter has been appreciably improved since the closure of a factory in the town which produced a particularly offensive effluent. The other tributary to the River Irwell - Whitewell Brook - which at one time was heavily polluted, is much improved and fishing takes place over an appreciable length.

Completion of the re-constructed Sewage Works should enable more trade effluent to be discharged via the sewer and thus reduce the pollution of the rivers which for so long has been a major sanitary requirement of the district.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Number of privy middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of closets attached to these middens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of pail closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	155
Number of dry ashpits (exclusive of middens)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Number of waste water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,017
Number of fresh water closets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,329
Number of portable receptacles for refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,326

Progress continues to be made in converting or abolishing the insanitary waste water closet which for so long has been a feature of the town's sanitary accommodation. Sixty-eight conversions were carried out, 34 through the Council's scheme of contribution whereby £15 is granted for each waste water closet converted, 31 by way of discretionary or standard grants, and 3 privately.

There still remain 1,017 waste water closets in the town. Approximately 614 waste water closets are to be found at properties with an expectancy of life of more than 15 years.

The Council make a grant of £15 towards the cost of converting waste water closets, and will pay one half of approved costs for pail closet conversions, including in the remote areas the provision of a proper septic tank. Since the Council's scheme was instituted in May 1952 applications have been approved for the conversion of 54 pail closets and 1,473 waste water closets. Grants approved total £1,622 in respect of pails and £15,351 in respect of waste water closets, the scheme being financed out of loan.

The outstanding houses served by pails, collected by the department, can be classified as follows:-

Category	Class of Property		Total
	Reasonable Life	Due for Demolition	
1. Pails within 100 ft. distance of sewer and water supply	-	2	2
2. Pails within reasonable distance but some sewer extension required	8	4	12
3. Pails requiring appreciable sewer extension or water supply	5	-	5
4. Pails in remote areas unlikely to be sewered	49	45	94
Totals	62	51	113

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS DURING 1969

The following table gives the number of inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year.

<u>SANITARY ADMINISTRATION</u>						<u>Primary Visits</u>	<u>Re- Visits</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cleansing and Salvage	..	..	..	..	..	125	1	126
Drainage and Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	84	56	140
Factories with Mechanical Power	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	7
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	5	3	8
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	..	24	2	26
Nuisances (Miscellaneous)	..	..	..	..	..	54	38	92
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	5	4	9
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	..	..	12	2	14
Rag Flock Premises	..	..	..	..	..	1		1
Refuse Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	319	107	426
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	33	25	58
Sanitary Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	41	12	53
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	8		8
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	..	..	..	..	..	61	15	76
Air Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	335	5	340
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	..	..	33		33
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	1		1
Verminous Premises	..	..	..	..	..	7	9	16
Water Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	5		5
Water Supplies (private)	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Water Supplies (public)	..	..	..	..	..	2		2
Civic Amenities Act	..	..	..	..	..	68	52	120
Smoke Control Area Survey	..	..	..	..	..	527	44	571
Caravan Sites	..	..	..	..	..	3		3
Hairdressers	..	..	..	..	..	5		5
<u>HOUSING ADMINISTRATION</u>								
Dwelling house repairs - H.A.	..	..	..	..	..	132	107	239
Dwelling house repairs - P.H.A.	..	..	..	..	..	54	52	106
Enquiries (Miscellaneous)	..	..	..	..	..	32		32
Improvement Grants	..	..	..	..	..	122	6	128
Survey	..	..	..	..	..	149		149
Survey - Improvement Areas	..	..	..	..	..	9		9
<u>FOOD ADMINISTRATION</u>								
Diseases of Animals Act	..	..	..	..	..	4		4
Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	23	5	28
Food Premises - Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	9	3	12
- Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	30	5	35
- Catering Establishments	..	..	..	..	..	15	9	24
- Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	20	8	28
						2360	577	2937

Continued.....

.....Continued

.....Continued

							Primary Visits	Re- Visits	Totals
						B/fwd.	2360	577	2937
Food Premises - Fishmongers	..	..	..	..	..		4	1	5
- Food Preparing		..	..	..	..		8	4	12
- Fried Fish Shops		..	..	..	..		16	6	22
- Greengrocers	..	..	..	..	..		20	2	22
- Grocers	..	..	..	..	..		63	13	76
- Hawkers	..	..	..	..	..		9	3	12
- Ice Cream Manufacturers			..	..	..		2		2
- Ice Cream Retailers				..	..		1	2	3
- Markets	..	..	..	..	..		8	10	18
- Sweets	..	..	..	..	..		1		1
- Licensed Premises			..	..	..		2		2
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	..	1919		1919
Milk Sampling	..	..	..	..	..	..	102		102
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	47		47
Ante Mortem	..	..	..	..	..	..	5		5
							4567	618	5185

In addition to the list of Public Health Inspectors' Visits 257 complaints regarding blocked drains and waste water closets have been dealt with by the Department.

WORK ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE YEAR

The following list of housing defects and nuisances were discovered, remedied and dealt with by serving of notice.

DWELLING HOUSE REPAIRS AND NUISANCES RECORDED IN JOURNAL (P.H.A.)

										Found	Abated
Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Chimney Stacks	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
Eaves Gutters	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Rain Water Pipes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Walls - structure	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Wall pointings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	2
Yard surfacings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
Outbuildings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Waste water closets defective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	13
Fresh water closets defective	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	3
Drains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
Wall plaster	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
Windows	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
Doors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	3
Floors	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
Offensive accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
										<u>45</u>	<u>36</u>

NOTICES SERVED

Informal	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37
Statutory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Industrial Pollution

The level of smoke pollution from industrial sources is low and shows considerable change over the position appertaining prior to the Clean Air Act 1956. The most recent figures reveal that coal consumption in industrial boilers is now only about 25% of the tonnage used in 1958 and oil is now the main fuel used by industry.

Section 6 of the 1968 Clean Air Act came into force on the 1st April 1969 when it became incumbent upon persons having possession of a boiler or industrial plant to seek local authority approval for the height of chimney when,

- 1) a new one is being built
- 2) a furnace serving an existing chimney is enlarged
- 3) a furnace served by an existing chimney is removed and replaced by one having a larger combustion space.

Calculations on proper chimney heights relate principally to the amount and dispersal of sulphur dioxide in the flue gases.

Two approvals were given during the year, one relating to a new erection for a children's home and the other relating to the conversion of a coal fired plant to an oil fired plant using an existing chimney. This latter conversion was most welcome as it followed adverse reports on smoke emissions, and again was an example of co-operation with industry without the need to recourse to legal action.

Approval of chimney heights is divorced from Building Regulations, and the Chairman and Vice Chairman have been given delegated powers in this respect.

New provisions relating to the emission of grit and dust also came into operation but it was not necessary to take any action during the past year.

The following table gives the results of smoke observations taken during the year:

Total number of observations	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Complying with the Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Not complying with the Regulations	..	..	..	..	..	..	17

Domestic Pollution

By examining the ratio of smoke/sulphur dioxide readings obtained from locally sited instruments it is estimated that 85% of the smoke pollution in the town now emanates from domestic sources. This smoke is discharged at a very low level and the valley formation of the town, particularly in winter when temperature inversions most commonly occur, gives rise to quite high levels of smoke pollution. This is harmful to health, dirty, uneconomic and justifies the earliest possible implementation of a smoke control programme. This was given the go-ahead during the year

by the Council and also by the Ministry although, unfortunately, at a slower speed than one would have liked. Present difficulties with the availability of solid smokeless fuels in the winter months will also affect the speed of the action that can be taken.

Over five hundred houses in the Bury Road district of the town have now been surveyed and will become the subject of the first smoke control area in the town which should be confirmed early in 1971. All new building development is to be smoke controlled at the outset, and the first smoke control order was made in 1969 and became operative in July 1970. It will ultimately affect seventy-two new dwelling houses being erected at Balladen.

The authority is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, in which there are thirty-eight constituent local authorities represented.

Two volumetric instruments measuring amounts of smoke and sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere are situated, one at the Department's Office in the town centre, and the other on the first floor of the Hall Carr Co-operative Grocery Store. A third instrument was fitted at the Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, Waterfoot in December 1969.

The results of the air sampling apparatus and meteorological records are appended.

MONTHLY POLLUTION AVERAGES

MONTH	SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE		Measurements in microgrammes per cubic metre
	Health Office	Hall Carr	Health Office	Hall Carr	
January	207	175	239	173	
February	162	176	190	173	
March	151	147	178	156	
April	98	128	115	114	
May	72	88	116	108	
June	40	49	82	80	
July	25	43	57	59	
August	32	38	64	60	
September	56	82	94	100	
October	123	111	143	144	
November	146	182	137	138	
December	206	232	227	230	
Annual Average daily pollution	110	121	137	128	

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND POLLUTION

(HEALTH OFFICE READINGS)

Meteorological Conditions		No. of days	Smoke	SO ₂	SMOKE in microgrammes per cubic metre		
<div>Fog7444416</div> <div>Clear47119138</div> <div>Cloudy70109146</div> <div>Rain (+.01")29114143</div> <div>Wet (+.04")11291125</div>					Average	Highest	Lowest
					110	1321	6
					SULPHUR DIOXIDE in mgrms/m ³		
					Average	Highest	Lowest
					137	922	24
RAINFALL IN INCHES					TEMPERATURE °F.		
Total	Highest Daily	Highest Monthly		Av. Max.	Highest	Av. Min.	Lowest
44.50"	1.47"	7.97"		53	88	41	10

Wind Direction	No. of days	Av. Smoke	Av. SO ₂	Wind Velocity	Force No.	No. of days	Av. Smoke	Av. SO ₂
N.	6	174	165	Calm	0	1	85	90
N.E.	13	110	133	Light air	1	54	147	169
E.	2	165	244	Light breeze	2	103	106	140
S.W.	114	116	153	Gentle breeze	3	58	74	111
W.	35	136	150	Moderate wind	4	31	68	94
N.W.	92	123	152	Fresh wind	5	16	59	120
S.E.	2	68	139	Strong wind	6	1	54	116
S.	1	70	105	Moderate gale	7	1	107	120
				Fresh gale	8	-	-	-

DISINFESTATION

Advice and assistance is given to all occupiers of infested premises who seek our help. Treatment for householders is free if their co-operation can be secured, and the methods vary according to circumstances. The substances used also vary according to circumstances but include pyrethrum, D.D.T., lindane and dieldrin.

Treatment by the Department's staff has been undertaken in the following cases:

<u>Type of Premise</u>		<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>
Cockroaches	- Domestic	42	76
"	- Schools	3	14
"	- Business	8	18
Fleas	- Domestic	4	18
Earwigs	- Domestic	1	4
Silver fish	- Domestic	4	8
Beetles	- Domestic	1	4
Wasps	- Domestic (Gardens)	10	-
Plaster beetles	- Domestic	8	19
Bugs	- Domestic	1	3
Midges	- Domestic	1	2
Midges	- Gardens	1	-
Blue bottles	- Domestic	1	1

DISINFECTION

<u>Type of Premise</u>		<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Rooms</u>
Tuberculosis	- Domestic	-	-
Other than Tuberculosis	- Domestic	6	25

SCHOOLS

There are 22 schools in the Borough and the following table sets out the general standard of sanitary arrangements. The Regulations referred to are based on the School Premises Amended Regulations.

Yard Surfaces unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation:								
Fresh water closets only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Trough closets only	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Refuse disposal by dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Water Supply:								
Public mains	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22
Private supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Washing facilities unsatisfactory according to standard prescribed by Regulation	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
Drinking facilities unsatisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil

The facilities for handling school meals were mainly satisfactory and a high standard of cleanliness was observed. Six schools prepare meals on their premises.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is only one tripe dresser in the Borough and this is visited periodically. The premises are satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960, which brought into force a new licensing system for caravans, has two objects:

- (i) to control the location of caravan sites by seeking appropriate planning permission.
- (ii) to improve conditions on sites by requiring good standards of layout, equipment and maintenance.

This latter provision is governed by the issue of site licences by the local authority which are only issued if planning permission is obtained. A total of five licences have been issued to date subject to the necessary conditions.

RAG FLOCK

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951 came into operation on the 1st November 1951, and the Act repeals the Rag Flock Acts of 1911, 1928. There are no licensed premises within the Borough, but three premises are registered as users of filling materials.

RODENT CONTROL

There was a slight increase in the number of premises inspected and treated following notification by members of the public.

Towards the end of the year the full time rodent operator retired and his duties are now undertaken by the foreman who, having regular transport, is enabled to carry out the work more quickly. A free service is given to tenants of domestic property, but a charge is made for the treatment of business and farm premises.

Surface Infestations

The following summary sets out the work carried out to deal with surface infestations. The figures show a slight increase in the number of treatments carried out compared with the previous year. All infestations were of a minor nature.

<u>Properties other than sewers</u>						<u>Type of Property</u>	
						Non- <u>Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
1.	Number of properties in district	..	..			11,140	145
2.	a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	..	..	..	..	485	1
	b) Number infested by (i) Rats	..				162	1
	(ii) Mice	..				179	-
3.	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	..	..	..	..	-	-
	Number infested by (i) Rats	..	..	..		-	-
	(ii) Mice	..	..	..		-	-

Sewer Treatment

The sewers in the town were treated once during the year and again it was revealed that, by the very few manholes where poison bait was taken, the sewers remain very lightly infested. Notwithstanding, a thorough test bait was given when every manhole was tested where 'takes' had been recorded during the past fourteen years as well as ten per cent of those which had never had recorded takes.

	<u>Test Baiting</u>	<u>Treatment</u>	
		<u>First</u>	<u>Second</u>
No. of manholes in sewerage system	2,382	2,382	-
No. of manholes baited	410	79	-
No. of manholes showing 'takes'	27	4	-
No. of manholes showing nil 'takes'	383	75	-

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

The above Act, which came into operation on the 1st April 1952, seeks to control the conditions under which pet animals are kept for sale. All primary inspections were carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. One premise is licenced under the above Act.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

The above Act regulates the keeping of boarding establishments for animals and for purposes connected therewith. All primary inspections are carried out in conjunction with the local inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. Two applications for licences were received and granted.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Number of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of Notices</u>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-
Factories not included above to which Section 7 applies	156	7	2
Other premises to which Section 7 applies	6	-	-
	<hr/> 162	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 2

DEFECTS

	<u>Found</u>	<u>Remedied</u>	<u>Referred to H.M. Inspector</u>	<u>by H.M. Inspector</u>
<u>Sanitary Conveniences</u>				
Unsuitable or defective ..	2	3	-	2

OUTWORKERS

In accordance with Section 133 (1) (c) of the Factories Act 1961 notifications on the August list were received from eight factory occupiers in the Borough that forty-five outworkers were employed in classes of work specified by Order. This shows a decrease of twenty-two outworkers on last year. These were largely connected with the slipper industry. In seven cases, where the outworkers carried on work outside the Borough, the appropriate local authorities were informed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premise (1)	Number of premises registered during the year (2)	Total number of registered premises at the end of the year (3)	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	3	56	17
Retail shops	11	132	42
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	6	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	15	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Totals	14	209	61

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 76

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

Class of workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	270
Retail Shops	406
Wholesale departments, warehouses	42
Catering establishments open to the public	66
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	784
Total Males	345
Total Females	439

EXEMPTIONS

Nil.

PROSECUTIONS

Nil.

INSPECTORS

Number of inspectors appointed under section 52 (1)

or (5) of the Act 4

Number of other staff employed for most of their

time on work in connection with the Act Nil

The following table gives the number of premises at which particular contraventions were noted, the number of contraventions recorded, and the contraventions found to have been remedied during 1969:

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Temperature	-	-	-	-
Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Lighting	1	1	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	2	3	2	4
Washing Facilities	1	1	2	2
Accommodation for Clothing	-	-	-	-
Seats for Sedentary Work	-	-	-	-
Floors, Passages and Stairs	2	3	-	-
First Aid, General Provisions	1	1	1	1
Thermometers	2	2	3	3
Information for Employees	1	1	1	1
Regulation for Securing Health and Safety	-	-	-	-
		<u>12</u>		<u>11</u>

The table next page, which accumulates the totals of 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969, virtually provides a balance sheet showing the progress which has been made towards full compliance with requirements. Broadly 87% of the original contraventions noted have been remedied, and it is known that much other work is in contractors' hands.

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

							<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness	-	162	-	133
Overcrowding	-	2	-	2
Temperature	-	47	-	40
Ventilation	-	8	-	8
Lighting	-	28	-	20
Sanitary Conveniences	-	248	-	207
Washing Facilities	-	93	-	84
Accommodation for Clothing	-	11	-	8
Floors, Passages and Stairs	-	127	-	114
Regulations for Securing Health and Safety							-	2	-	2
First Aid, General Provisions	-	114	-	107
Information for Employees	-	114	-	101
Thermometers	-	116	-	109
Seats for Sedentary Work	-	1	-	1
								<u>1073</u>		<u>936</u>

One non-fatal accident where an employee fell from some steps was reported.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

Two industrial noise complaints were successfully dealt with during the year following co-operation with the management. One complaint of barking dogs was also resolved. The Council embody a clause in public works contracts restricting the periods when drills and other equipment should be used, and stipulating that equipment should be integrally or otherwise fitted with noise suppression devices. In general statutory undertakers, who are exempt by law from the relevant provisions of the Act, have co-operated with our request to fit silencers.

PUBLIC CLEANSINGREFUSE STORAGE

The rate borne municipal bin scheme continued in its sixth year to work satisfactorily. The scheme provides for renewal of one bin per premise as a bin becomes defective, to cover provision of bins for new houses, and, where justifiable, not to limit renewal or supply of one bin per household. The scheme, therefore, now becomes fully comprehensive. During the year 579 dustbins and 586 rubber lids were supplied by the Department, and of these 531 dustbins and 538 rubber lids were supplied under the scheme at a cost of slightly less than a $\frac{1}{2}$ d. rate.

The issue of paper sacks at holiday periods to meet temporary storage difficulties continued to function satisfactorily. About 25% of householders in the town avail themselves of this service which, in addition to facilitating the principle of a same day collection service, reduces the usual complaints following holiday periods to very small numbers. The paper sack system was also used to meet temporary collection disturbances due to road repairs etc. The two latest Council house projects, involving some 240 houses, are also served by paper sacks with holders affixed to the ledge of an outward opening door enclosing a brick compartment large enough to accommodate two sacks.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Difficulties continue in the recruitment of suitable labour, although the payment of certain bonuses when teams are depleted enable the continuance of a weekly refuse collection service.

The free service provided for the removal of bulky household refuse, including furniture, continued to be in increasing demand. This service, whilst still unfortunately not preventing indiscriminate dumping, gives no excuse for such action but obviously prevents a good deal. Reasonable amounts of garden refuse and "do it yourself" building work refuse is also removed free of charge, but payment is insisted upon for excessive amounts of this latter type of work, and it is not always easy to determine genuine jobs.

Domestic and trade refuse is collected by three teams with a performance of 120 bins per man per day operating on a stint system. A separate collection of waste paper from shops and offices is made by a fourth vehicle which also deals with the bulky refuse collection service. The average length of haul to tip for the larger vehicle is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, as against $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles for the smaller vehicle.

The number of working days lost due to sickness and injury amounted to 727 or the labour of almost three men over the year. Such an incidence of absence caused appreciable periods of difficulty during the winter period in maintaining collection services. The winter 'flu' epidemic appeared to be the principal cause.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

The above Act and relevant regulations, so far as they relate to unlawfully deposited rubbish, came into operation on the 24th August 1967.

In 1968 this authority designated Meadow Head Tip as the refuse disposal centre where people may take their refuse as required by the Act, and full publicity was given to the arrangements. This provision was considered adequate, particularly having regard to facilities which are available for the free collection of bulky discards.

No formal action was taken during 1969 regarding unauthorised dumping, but the clearance of many sites in the Borough is a problem which will have to be faced in the future if amenities are to be improved. It is virtually impossible to find the culprits of unauthorised dumping, and the clearance of the various sites in the town will prove costly and could disorganize existing transport and labour arrangements. The possible use of voluntary workers could be explored.

The duty to remove apparently abandoned motor vehicles came into operation on the 27th January 1968 and became mandatory six months later.

The previous private arrangements made with a local car dismantling firm were successfully continued in the administration of the new provisions.

One hundred and twenty visits were paid by your Inspectors under the Act, mainly in connection with the abandonment of vehicles. Nineteen abandoned vehicles were removed during the year, twelve of which necessitated use of the statutory procedure.

The type and age of the vehicles operated are as follows:-

<u>Type of vehicle</u>	<u>Year Purchased</u>	<u>Reg. No.</u>
S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 12 cu. yard capacity, and loaders cab	1962	507 XTB
Karrier Bantam 10 cu. yard capacity	1962	687 TE
S. & D. TZ Type Fore and Aft Tipper 25 cu. yard capacity, and loaders cab	1964	HTF 522B
S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper 25 cu. yard capacity, and loaders cab	1968	KTD 886F
S. & D. 20 cu. yard Pakamatic and loaders cab	1969	STJ 808H

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Tipping was continued on the 9.4 acres of land which has been leased on the westerly side of the old Meadow Head tip. The proposed scheme of tipping, which has received planning approval, is expected to be spread over 10 - 12 years in two stages, provides for re-soiling and seeding on completion, and reversion back as a level plateau to agricultural use. A Weatherill Hydraulic Mechanical Shovel operates on the tip. Increasing difficulty is being experienced with handling present day refuse during wet periods.

To supplement the free collection of bulky articles and to discourage people from indiscriminate tipping, a free disposal service was offered for loads up to one ton in bulk. The number of loads tipped was as follows:

Refuse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,111
Sweepings	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	227
Gully Material	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	275
Various	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	396

SALVAGE

The weight of waste paper collected and sold for salvage was 185 tons 12 cwts. 3 q. which brought in an income of £1,803 11s. 11d. A salvage bonus is payable to the men for this work and £293 13s. 2d. was paid out in this connection.

PAIL CLOSETS

The mechanical gully emptier is hired from the Highways Department on one day per week for the emptying of 82 pails provided at unsewered property.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are nine ladies' and gentlemen's public conveniences and eight urinals. Malicious damage continued to cause appreciable expenditure in repairs. New conveniences were opened adjacent to the new shopping centre during the year.

S E C T I O N E

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES

Number of new housing erected during the year:

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Flats and Bungalows</u>
(a) By the local authority	9	10
(b) By other local authorities	-	-
(c) By other bodies or persons	23	-

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 79

Number of inspections made for the above purpose 345

Number of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable, at reasonable expense, of being rendered fit:

(a) Number found during the year 64

(b) Number at end of the year 1028

Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit 31

CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES

A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

<u>In Clearance Areas (Housing Act 1957)</u>	<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	33	124	63
(2) Houses included by reasons of bad arrangement etc.	2	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2)	-	-	-

		<u>Houses Demolished</u>	<u>Displaced Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>				
(4)	As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1)	18	-	-
(5)	Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-
(6)	Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts	-	-	-
(7)	Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-
B. <u>UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED (Housing Act 1957)</u>				
		<u>Number</u>	<u>Displaced Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
(8)	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1), 35(1) ..	18	43	17
(9)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26	-	-	-
(10)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18	-	-	-
C. <u>UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED</u>				
		<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>	
(11)	After informal action by Local Authority	34	-	
(12)	After formal notices under:			
	(a) Public Health Acts	-	-	
	(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	-	-	
(13)	Under Section 24 Housing Act 1957 ..	-	-	
D. <u>UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act 1957)</u>				
		<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of separate dwellings</u>	
Retained for temporary accommodation under Section 48		19	19	
E. <u>PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT</u>				
		<u>No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of occupants</u>	
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased during the year		2	-	

HOUSING ACT 1949, AND HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1958

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

<u>Action during year:</u>		<u>No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of:</u>	
		<u>Private bodies or individuals</u>	<u>Local Authority</u>
(a)	By private individuals to L.A.	13	-
(b)	Finally approved by L.A.	9	-
(c)	Submitted by L.A. to Ministry	-	-
(d)	Finally approved by Ministry	-	-
(e)	Work completed	10	-

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT 1959, AND HOUSING ACTS 1961 & 1964 STANDARD GRANTS

<u>Action during year:</u>	<u>No. of Dwelling Houses affected</u>
(a) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to full standard	102
(b) Applications submitted to L.A. for improvement to reduced standard	-
(c) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to full standard	99
(d) Applications approved by L.A. for improvement to reduced standard	-
(e) Work completed	95

GENERAL

During the year 46 houses were represented in Clearance Areas, 22 of which were the subject of Clearance Orders and 24 the subject of Compulsory Purchase Orders. In addition 18 individually unfit houses were represented under Section 16 of the 1957 Housing Act.

Commencement was also made with the survey of back-to-back property which is scheduled for conversion. This action followed the Council's decision last year to carry out the back-to-back conversion schemes simultaneously with the clearance programme. It is hoped to complete both of the present programmes by 1975.

Appreciable work was also entailed in supplying information to the consultants engaged by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in connection with an urban renewal pilot study scheme. The whole pilot study area embraced 948 houses, 123 of which were included in clearance proposals. Preliminary reports from the consultants indicate that about 50% of the remaining property should become the subject of general improvement areas.

The Housing Act 1969 came into operation during the year and amended present legislation in respect of slum clearance, improvement grants, improved rents for houses of a satisfactory standard, and new procedure for dealing with improvement areas.

The following statistical review sets out the housing standards of all property in the town based on information so far available in the Department, and gives the progress made in the clearance and improvement of property which formed the main basis of a twenty year plan which I submitted in 1954.

A. <u>Broad classification of property in the town at the end of 1969</u>	No. of <u>houses</u>
<u>Property of satisfactory standard</u>	
(a) Older houses (Section B, 1b and 1c)	2233
(b) Council houses (Estates only)	2741
(c) Pre and post war private detached and semi-detached houses (approx.)	<u>923</u>
	5897
<u>Property of unsatisfactory standard for future action</u>	
(a) Probable for clearance (Section B, 2a and 2c)	834
(b) Probable for improvement (Section B, 2b and 2d)	<u>1492</u>
	2326
<u>Property in isolated rural areas, mainly farm cottages unlikely for action in foreseeable future</u>	
	(approx.) <u>200</u>
Total houses ..	<u>8423</u>
B. <u>Progress in the clearance and improvement of older property at the end of 1969</u>	
1. <u>Action completed</u>	
(a) Clearance programmes (230 await confirmation re-housing and/or demolition) ..	1609
(b) Back-to-back improvement programme (including associated 'throughs') ..	239
(c) Older terraced properties with full standard amenities (new standard applied)	<u>1994</u>
	<u>3842</u>
2. <u>Outstanding</u>	
(a) Clearance programme (1969 - 1975)	611
(b) Back-to-back improvement programme 1969 - 1975 (including associated 'throughs')	<u>325</u>
	936
(c) Residue property for further detailed examination after 1975 (probably the majority for clearance) ..	223
(d) Older terraced properties requiring provision of some amenities	<u>1167</u>
	<u>2326</u>

C. Standard and ownership of the older terraced property in the town not included in clearance or improvement programmes

	<u>Owner occupied</u>	<u>Rented</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a) <u>Up to standard</u>	1857 (69%)	137 (29%)	1994 (63%)
(b) <u>Not up to standard</u>			
(i) With bathroom and few deficiencies (Majority lacking internal W.C. only)	354	54	408
(ii) Without bathroom and other amenities	<u>483</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>759</u>
	<u>837 (31%)</u>	<u>330 (71%)</u>	<u>1167 (37%)</u>
Totals of (a) and (b)	<u>2694 (85%)</u>	<u>467 (15%)</u>	<u>3161</u>

The following comments on these statistics may be made.

Section A.

Although the overall figure of houses reveals more of satisfactory standard, i.e. possessing modern amenities of hot and cold water, bath, internal W.C. etc., there are still fewer older houses up to standard than not. The percentage of Council houses is fairly high, whilst private 'modern' houses are comparatively low.

Section B.

It is considered that satisfactory progress has been made in the past fifteen years with the clearance and improvement of back-to-back houses. It seems reasonable to expect that the proposed clearance and improvement programmes outlined previously should be capable of realisation. At the time of writing the report, re-housing from outstanding clearance areas has been reduced considerably. Outstanding demolitions have also been substantially reduced.

Section C.

Property reviewed in this section will constitute the future potential improvement areas. It will be seen that 69% of owner-occupied property and only 29% of rented property are already up to standard. The preponderance of owner-occupied property of this type (85% in total) brings the overall figure to 63% of the property up to standard. It is anticipated the new improvement areas will also concentrate on effecting improvements to the external environment, e.g. improving traffic flows, landscaping and the creation of play areas etc.

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At the end of the year there were 321 applicants for Council houses, and schemes at present on the drawing board include a further 18 flats and one warden's house. There were no cases of overcrowding occurring in Council houses during the year.

S E C T I O N F.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The supervision of milk production on farms is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Local authorities are still responsible for many important duties connected with milk distribution, including the sampling of milk after it leaves the farm. They also possess the powers for prevention of infection of milk, and duties in connection with water supply, sewage disposal and housing at farm and dairy premises.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963 - 1965 govern the designations which may be applied to milk. Milk which is not subject to some form of heat treatment is now designated "untreated milk", whilst the treated milks embrace "sterilised, pasteurised and ultra heat treated milks".

There are 25 producer retailers of untreated milk in the Borough, and 86 registered distributors of milk operating in the district under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations 1959. The following table details the number and results of samples taken during the year.

	No. of Samples	Results		No Results
		No. Positive	No. Negative	
<u>Raw Milk - Tuberculin Tested</u>				
(a) Tuberculosis biological test	52	-	52	-
(b) Brucella Abortus, Ring test	85	12	73	-
(c) Brucella Abortus, Culture test	12	3	9	-
(d) Brucella Abortus, Biological test	5	1	4	-
	No. of Samples	No. satis- factory	No. unsatis- factory	No Results
<u>Pasteurised Milk</u>				
(a) Phosphatase test	3	3	-	-
(b) Methylene blue reduction test	3	3	-	-
<u>Sterilised Milk</u>				
(a) Turbidity test	3	3	-	-
<u>Ultra Heat Treated Milk</u>				
(a) U.H.T. Colony count	-	-	-	-

The Department continued to pay special attention to the incidence of brucella infection in local milk supplies. The twenty-five local producer retailers and seven outside producer retailers vending in the Borough were all sampled at least twice by the Department and once by the County Council who inform us of adverse results. Additional samples were collected from producer

retailers having infected milk in recent years, and individual cow samples were taken to trace infected animals where the bulk sample proved positive.

Eighty-five samples of milk were sent for examination and one infected herd was discovered. Twenty-six individual cow samples from the herd revealed infected cows and all of these were sent for slaughter.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

There were several contacts with Veterinary Officers engaged by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food who periodically visit slaughtering facilities to assist in raising hygiene standards and in attaining uniformity of administration arranged by various authorities. The Department continued its monthly detailed inspections and reports on each slaughterhouse to supplement the day to day visits for meat inspection purposes.

The scale of charges for meat inspection was again reviewed, and it was decided to increase the charges to the maximum permissible. The rates are as follows: cattle - 2/6d.; calves - 9d.; pigs - 9d.; and sheep - 6d. The expenditure incurred on meat inspection by way of salaries, transport etc. is still more than the income derived from the charges.

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MEAT INSPECTION RECORD SUMMARY

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs
No. of animals killed	4225	1428	68	1154	23855
No. of animals inspected	4225	1428	68	1154	23855
<u>Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	-	-	-	8	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	0.7%	-
<u>Pyæmic Lesions</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	2	-	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	224	35	-	6	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with pyæmic lesions	5.3%	2.4%	3.0%	0.5%	0.03%
<u>Fascioliasis</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcass or organ condemned	2068	1215	-	-	7197
Percentage of the number inspected affected with fascioliasis	48.9%	85.0%	-	-	30.1%
<u>All Other Diseases</u>					
Whole carcass condemned	-	4	2	-	13
Part carcass or organ condemned	207	386	5	487	1739
Percentage of the number inspected affected with other diseases	4.9%	27.3%	10.2%	42.2%	7.3%

ANALYSIS OF REJECTIONS

Disease & type of Animal	Whole carcass	Part carcass	Head	Lungs	Heart	Diaphragm	Liver	Part Liver	Spleen	Stomach	Intestines	Udders	Tails	Kidneys	Uterus & genitals
<u>CATTLE</u> T.B.															
Pyæmic lesions		1	6	21	2	3	144	88	2	2				6	
Fasciol.				2			809	2566							
Other diseases	4	8	7	294	11	2	39	1	9	6	7	230	5	46	6
<u>CALVES</u> T.B.															
Pyæmic lesions	2		2	2	2	2	2		2	2	2		2	3	
Fasciol.															
Other diseases	2	2	3	6	2	2	2		2	2	2	2	2	4	2
<u>SHEEP</u> T.B.															
Pyæmic lesions				3			4								
Fasciol.							1483	5655							
Other diseases	13	16	12	1645	13	11	15	3	13	13	13	3	3	28	8
<u>PIGS</u> T.B.			3								5				
Pyæmic lesions		1					2				1	1			
Fasciol.															
Other diseases		3	3	373	27	2	37	67		1	2				

WEIGHT OF MEAT AND OFFAL CONDEMNED

<u>Disease Except T.B.</u>		<u>Tuberculosis only</u>	
<u>Weight of</u> <u>Meat lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of</u> <u>Offal lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of</u> <u>Meat lbs.</u>	<u>Weight of</u> <u>Offal lbs.</u>
<u>2,653</u>	<u>42,871</u>	-	<u>40</u>

REASONS FOR CONDEMNATION OF WHOLE CARCASSES

Disease	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Pyæmia	-	1	-	-
Oedema	-	1	10	-
Emaciation	3	-	1	-
Septic Omphalophlebitis	-	1	-	-
Acute Mastitis	1	-	-	-
Septicaemia	-	1	-	-
Anasarca	-	-	2	-

Two applications for licences to slaughter or stun cattle, sheep and pigs under the provision of the Slaughter of Animals Act 1958 were granted during the year.

Twenty-eight inspections were also made for the purpose of inspecting food at retailer's premises, and the following articles were rejected:-

Biscuits	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Fruit Juice	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Soup tinned	5 lbs.	Pies frozen	$\frac{3}{4}$ lb.
Fruit tinned	14 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Meat frozen	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Vegetables tinned	24 lbs.	Fish frozen	8 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Pudding tinned	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Vegetables frozen	25 lbs.
Meat tinned	30 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.	Fish fingers frozen	36 packets
Cream tinned	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.	Fish cakes	18 packets
Fish tinned	1 lb.	Fish frozen	66 packets
Meat	900 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Braised beef frozen	18 packets
Poultry	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Steaklets frozen	12 packets
Sausage	15 lbs.	Beef pies frozen	6 packets
Bacon	24 lbs.	Chocolate eclairs frozen	12 packets
Margarine	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Milk tinned	1 pint

FOOD PREMISES

Two hundred and seventy-four inspections of food premises were carried out. Informal notices were served upon the persons concerned when defects were found as set out overleaf:-

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955, FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

NATURE OF DEFECT OR CONTRAVENTION

	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Found</u>	<u>Premises</u>	<u>Abated</u>
Cleanliness of Equipment	3	3	2	2
Food to be protected from risk of contamination	1	1	2	4
Personal Cleanliness	1	1	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	6	13	2	3
Wash hand basins to be provided	3	7	2	2
First Aid Materials to be provided	3	3	-	-
Accommodation for Clothing etc.	1	1	-	-
Facilities for washing food and equipment ..	2	2	-	-
Lighting of food rooms	2	2	-	-
Cleanliness and repair etc. of food rooms ..	7	18	5	15
Accumulation of refuse etc.	3	3	-	-
Temperature at which certain foods are to be kept	-	-	-	-
General requirements as to stalls and vehicles	-	-	-	-
Water supply to be provided	1	1	-	-
Ventilation of food rooms ,. . . .	3	<u>3</u>	-	<u>-</u>
		58		26

The number of food premises, by type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

Type of business	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash-hand basin)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies (Sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
1. Grocers and provision dealers	99	99	82	82
2. Greengrocers and fruiterers (inc. those selling wet fish, game etc.)	18	18	18	18
3. Fishmongers (inc. those selling poultry, game etc.)	1	1	1	1
4. Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe etc.)	38	38	38	38
5. Bakers and/or confectioners	21	21	21	21
				Continued over

Type of business	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash-hand basin)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies (Sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
6. Fried fish shops	19	19	19	19
7. Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc.	17	17	5	5
8. Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	59	59	59	59
9. Others	3	3	3	3

ICE CREAM

There are two manufacturers of ice-cream in the Borough, both of whom use the hot-mix method. In only one instance is the production carried out on a large scale. The other is a small trader and shopkeeper manufacturing for his own requirements. The details of registration at the end of the year were as follows:

	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
1. Manufacturing retailers	2	-
2. Retailers only	87	-
	<u>89</u>	<u>-</u>

Generally speaking inspection of the ice-cream premises revealed that the relevant Acts and Regulations, together with the adopted Lancashire County Council's Codes of Practice, were being satisfactorily observed.

FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION

The Lancashire County Council undertake the sampling of food for quality, assistance being rendered by this Department as required. Doctor C. H. T. Wade, County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly furnished the following information:

A total of 66 samples was obtained comprising 35 milks (of which two were Channel Islands milk) and 31 others as follows:

1 Bristol Cream Sherry	2 Biscuits
1 Apple Tart	1 Nut Mix
1 Syrup	1 Onion Gravy Mix
1 Redcurrant Tart	1 Black pudding
1 Tomato Juice, canned	1 Junior Aspirin
1 Castor Sugar	1 Fresh Cream Dessert
1 Meat, canned	1 Bread
1 Chopped Ham and Pork, canned	1 Bilberries, bottled
1 Chicken Curry with Rice, canned	1 Glucose Sweets
1 Instant Peas	1 Headache Powders
1 Chocolate Covered Roll	2 Baby Food
1 Cake Mix	1 Aspirin Tablet
1 Full Fat Processed Cheese	1 Laxative Tablets
1 Liver Pate	1 Margarine
1 Chopped Dates - sugar rolled	

Following are details of samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:

<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Meat, canned	Meat content 73%. Recommended minimum meat content 75%.	No action taken.
Chopped Ham and Pork, canned	Meat content 86% and contained 4% cereal. Resembled luncheon meat rather than chopped meat.	Manufacturer communicated with.
Bread	Contained compressed woody fibrous material of the nature of coarse cardboard in four pieces, the total weight being 1.246 grammes.	Bakers cautioned and complainant informed.
Bilberries, bottled	The foreign matter consisted of bilberries bound into an aggregate by fungal mycelium. The cause was an incomplete sealing ring under the jar closures.	Complainant and importer informed.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT

Functions with regard to the above Act, which are administered by the Health Committee, are carried out by the Police. One suspected case of anthrax was dealt with during the year.

MORTUARY

During 1969 sixty-five bodies were dealt with by the Police at the Public Mortuary.

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